

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IOE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
EUR-12 NEA-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OIC-02 /114 W
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJ: 34TH SESSION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: PARTICIPATION
OF E. K. SEKYIAMAH IN DEBATE ON COMMUNICATIONS

REF: HEWITT/GASTON-SHAPIRO TELCON JANUARY 12, 1978

1. MISOFF SPOKE WITH HRD DIRECTOR VAN BOVEN REGARDING
THE ATTENDANCE OF E.K. SEKYIAMAH (GHANA) AT THE 34TH
SESSION OF THE HRC DURING CONSIDERATION OF ITEM 12B.
DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT IT WAS A U.S. INITIATIVE WHICH
LED TO SEKYIAMAH'S ATTENDANCE AT THE 33RD HRC SESSION.

2. NIAL MACDERMOT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF
JURISTS (ICJ), WHO ASKED IF THE U.S. WOULD MAKE THE
REQUEST AGAIN THIS YEAR AGREED WITH MISOFF THAT SEKYIA-
MAH'S CONTRIBUTION WAS NOT PARTICULARLY NOTABLE LAST YEAR.
HOWEVER, AS A MEMBER OF THE SUB-COMMISSION AND CHAIRMAN
OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COMMUNICATIONS, MACDERMOT BE-
LIEVES THAT, IF USED PROPERLY BY THE WEST, SEKYIAMAH
COULD MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION WHEN THE UGANDA
ISSUE IS DEBATED.

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3. VAN BOVEN THINKS IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO INVITE SEKYIAMAH
TO PARTICIPATE. HE DOES NOT WANT A LONG PUBLIC DEBATE ON
THE ISSUE, AS OCCURED LAST YEAR, AND SUGGESTS THAT WE
SPEAK WITH M'BAYE ABOUT THE SITUATION BEFORE THE SESSION
OPENS AND ARRANGE FOR A QUICK DECISION ON THE MATTER
DURING THE DISCUSSION OF ORGANIZATION OF WORK. HE SAID

THAT THE SECRETARIAT WOULD ALSO RAISE THE ISSUE WITH
M'BAYE.

4. DURING THE CONVERSATION VAN BOVEN NOTED THAT GHANA WAS
NOT NOMINATING SEKYIAMAH FOR THE SUB-COMMISSION THIS TIME
AROUND SO HE WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE NEXT YEAR. HE ALSO
COMMENTED THAT THE U.S. HAD NOT MADE A NOMINATION FOR
THE SUB-COMMISSION, ADDING CRYPTICALLY THAT IF NOT CARE-
FUL WE MIGHT LOSE OUR SEAT ON THE SUB-COMMISSION.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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